

My precious Jaszowiec

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My first talk at Jaszowiec was in 1996, when I was 25-years old, a PhD student, just beginning my adventure in physics, but already bringing to the School the results which later turned out to be some of my most important and best cited. I was proud and stressed, and still remember vividly many details of what today I see as formative experience and an entrance into arena of professional science.

It was Jaszowiec #25, exactly half of this year's Jubilee edition #50. So on one hand it was already a grown conference, with real history, prestige, and a well-defined mission for the Polish community of condensed matter physics. It was dedicated to the professors who once shaped the School which now was about to shape us: Jerzy Mycielski, Leonard Sosnowski, and Wiesław Wardzyński. On the other hand, over the following 25 editions Jaszowiec evolved in many ways, probably more importantly with regard to its role for the Polish physicists at different stages of their careers than in terms of format, location or comfort.

The Chairman of that 25th Jaszowiec was Jerzy Langer, and the Tutorial Session was in the hands of its inventor Perła Kacman, both dear friends. Everyone on that Program Committee already was or later became a distinguished scientist. The 1996 Conference still used its original hotel Gwarek, but the lectures were already held at Kolejarz. Proceedings were published by Acta Physica Polonica A.

Since 1996, I attended Jaszowiec nearly each year, presenting my best results and absorbing new ideas. I brought here my family and my students and met my heroes, friends and collaborators. And I had a privilege to chair Jaszowiec #48. Over this time Jaszowiec has also grown in importance for the broad condensed matter community at my university. In 2013 this led to allowing Wrocław Tech the status of co-organizer and inviting our physicist to the Program Committee. In my brief talk I will try to express my conviction that the growth of Wrocław Tech physics owes a lot to existence and development of this great conference.